

*Glis Melonii*, sp. n.

Like *G. italicus*, but greyer in colour and with a different tail.

General characters and size as in the Italian species, the upper premolar small and comparatively simple as in that animal. Colour, instead of being drab or drab-grey as is the case in *italicus*, clear grey, without drab suffusion, approximating to grey no. 6 of Ridgway. Tail very thick and bushy at the base, tapering terminally to the comparatively narrow tip; quite evenly broad throughout in *G. italicus*. In colour, while at least the terminal half, and sometimes more, of the tail in *italicus* is brown or blackish, in *Melonii* only the tip is darkened, the grizzled grey extending for from two thirds to three fourths of the length of the tail; the tip itself is also darker, often really black; under surface with the usual white line along the proximal two thirds.

Skull and dentition as in *G. italicus*.

External dimensions apparently about as in *G. italicus*, but the skins seem to be stretched, and no useful purpose would be served by measuring them.

Skull of type: greatest length 42 mm.; basilar length 34; greatest breadth 35; nasals 13.5; interorbital breadth 5.5; length of upper tooth series 7.6.

*Hab.* (of type). Marcuirighè, Urzulei, Ogliastra, Sardinia. Other specimens from Monte Nieddu.

*Type.* Adult male in British Museum. Collected by Sr. Giuseppe Meloni. Twelve specimens examined.

Signor Meloni informs me that this dormouse is only found in the Forests of Urzulei and Orgosolo, while it appears to be quite absent from the other forests of the island.

LIII.—*A new Genus and Species of Phlebotomic Muscidae from Aden.* By ERNEST E. AUSTEN.

STOMOXYDINÆ.

STYGEROMYIA\*, gen. nov.

In some respects intermediate between *Stomoxys*, Geoff., *Hæmatobia*†, Rob.-Desv., and *Lyperosia*, Rond. (*sensu* Bezzi).

\* *στυγερός*, hateful; *μύια*, a fly.

† The present writer cannot agree with Speiser (Zeitschr. f. wiss. Insektenbiol. Bd. i. (1905) p. 461), whom he regrets to see has recently been followed by Bezzi ("Mosche Ematofaghe," Rendiconti del R. Ist. Lomb. di sc. e lett., serie ii, vol. xl. 1907, p. 17 [sep. imp.]; and 'Katalog

In general appearance and form of body similar to *Stomoxys*, but in shape of proboscis and palpi resembling *Hæmatobia*, though with arista feathered only on upper side, as in *Stomoxys* and *Lyperosia*.—Head somewhat flattened from front to rear, with basioccipital region only slightly swollen; proboscis short, stout, and shining, of uniform thickness throughout, not tapering to the tip, chitinous, but terminated by a pair of small fleshy labella; palpi equal to proboscis in length, large, clavate towards the tips, curving upwards, and with stout bristles on the outer side at the distal extremity.

Bristles of thorax:—*Humeral*, 3. *Post-humeral*, 1. *Notopleural*, 2. *Præsutural*, 1. *Supra-alar*, 1. *Intra-alar*, 1. *Post-alar*, 2. *Dorso-central*, 6 (1 in front of and 5 behind the suture). *Inner dorso-central*, 1. *Scutellar*, 4 (1 præbasal, 1 basal, 1 discal, 1 apical)\*. *Mesopleural*, 9 or 10, wider apart than in *Stomoxys* or *Hæmatobia*. *Sternopleural*, 1 (posterior, as in *Stomoxys*, instead of 1:1, as in *Hæmatobia*).

*Wings* with first posterior cell narrowly open at the tip, the width of the opening being precisely that seen in the same cell in the wing of *Musca corvina*, Fabr., and less than half

der Paläarktischen Dipteren,' Bd. iii.), in transferring to this genus, from its time-honoured position among the Tachininae, Meigen's name *Siphona*. So far from Meigen's diagnosis, published in 1803 (Illiger's 'Magazin für Insektenkunde,' Bd. ii. p. 281), applying just as well to *Hæmatobia*, Rob.-Desv., as to *Bucentes*, Latr. (= *Siphona*, Mg., Syst. Besch. iv. (1824), p. 154, *et auct.*), as erroneously asserted by Speiser, the statements concerning the bare arista and "gebrochen" proboscis show that it does nothing of the kind. On the contrary, it must be evident to any unbiassed investigator that, when writing his diagnosis of 1803, Meigen had in view identically the same genus as that subsequently characterized by him in greater detail in the volume of the 'Systematische Beschreibung' published in 1824, and illustrated in tab. xxxvii. of that work, figs. 18-25. Strangely enough, in view of the course that he has seen fit to adopt, this contention is actually advanced by Bezzi (*loc. cit.* pp. 17-18, sep. imp.)! In dealing his perfectly gratuitous blow at the stability of Muscid nomenclature, Speiser relies chiefly on the fact that Meigen appended to his 1803 diagnosis of *Siphona*, as "type" or "example," the name "*Stomoxys irritans*, Fabr.," which is now admitted to be a synonym of *Hæmatobia* (*Stomoxys*) *stimulans*, Mg. This argument, however, goes for naught in view of the statements in the diagnosis itself, to which attention has already been drawn; and, as Bezzi remarks (*loc. cit.* p. 18, sep. imp.), there appears to have been some mistake as regards the species given as the type of the genus *Siphona*. It may well be that "*irritans*," Fabr., was simply a *lapsus calami* for "*minuta*," Fabr., since in Syst. Besch. iv. p. 155, *Stomoxys minuta*, Fabr., is given by Meigen himself as a synonym of *Siphona* (*Musca*) *geniculata*, Deg., the species which there follows immediately after the detailed description of the genus *Siphona*.

\* For the nomenclature of the bristles of the scutellum, cf. Girschner, "Ueber die Scutellarbeborstung der Musciden," Wiener entomologische Zeitung, xx. Jahrg. (1901), pp. 71-72, Taf. i. figs. 4-7.

of that exhibited by the first posterior cell in the case of *Stomoxys calcitrans*, L.; *apical portion of fourth vein* beyond the bend *perfectly straight*, not bent inwards at the extremity, as in *Stomoxys* and *Hematobia*.

Typical species, *Stygeromyia maculosa*, sp. n.

*Stygeromyia maculosa*, sp. n.

♂. Length  $6\frac{1}{4}$  mm.; length of wing  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; width of head  $2\frac{1}{3}$  mm.; width of front at narrowest part  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm., slightly wider at vertex; length of proboscis from base of chitinous portion to tip of labella  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mm.; width of thorax at transverse suture  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; width of abdomen at hind margin of second segment  $2\frac{3}{4}$  mm.

*Entirely smoke-grey*\*, *striped and spotted with brown*, *bristles and hair entirely black*; *palpi and tibiae orange-buff* (anterior surface of hind tibiae suffused with grey); *wings hyaline*, basal portion of third vein with some 7 or 8 bristles, wide apart and exceedingly minute.

*Head*.—*Face and front yellowish silvery*, posterior surface grey; ground-colour of face ochraceous; *frontal stripe* walnut-brown, narrow, slightly narrower than orbits in middle, expanding above and below, lower extremity enclosing usual silvery spot above base of antennæ; *antennæ*, first and second joints and base of third joint on inner side below orange-rufous, remainder of third joint and arista dark brown; hairs on upper side of arista long, 11 or 12 in number; *palpi* with short black bristles on outer side on distal two-thirds, three or four bristles at extreme tip of each palpus longer than remainder, and very conspicuous when insect is examined under a lens; middle portion of lower margin of each palpus beset with a series of fine and rather long black hairs; *proboscis* dark chestnut-brown. *Thorax*.—Brown markings on dorsum as follows:—*a pair of narrow admedian stripes* extending from anterior margin across transverse suture and terminating at one-fourth the distance between suture and præscutellar furrow; *a somewhat lighter-coloured median stripe*, which, *commencing a short distance in front of the inner dorso-central bristles*, disappears close to hind margin, and reappears again as a *faintly marked fleck on base of scutellum*; *two broader spots on each side near transverse suture*, one in front of suture, immediately behind post-humeral bristle, the other behind suture, between supra-alar bristle and the dorso-central row, and nearer to the latter; the last-mentioned spot is

\* For names of colours see Ridgway, 'A Nomenclature of Colors for Naturalists' (Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1886).

somewhat elongate, and all the thoracic markings, except the short posterior median stripe and the fleck on the base of the scutellum, are somewhat shining: the general arrangement of the thoracic markings, except for the presence of a fleck on the base of the scutellum, is similar to that seen in the case of the ♀ of *Hæmatobia stimulans*, Mg. Abdomen rounded, the upper surface strongly arched; first segment unspotted; second, third, and fourth segments with an elongate median spot of mummy-brown, and a lateral spot on each side; the median spots on the second and third segments are guttate, and that on the second segment is in contact with the front margin, but does not quite reach the hind margin; the median spot on the third segment is not in contact with either front or hind margins; the same spot on the fourth segment takes the form of a narrow median stripe extending from the front margin to a point one-third of the length of the segment from the hind margin; the lateral spots on the second segment are the largest of all and transverse. Legs.—Femora greyish, except tips, which are orange-buff; front tarsi cinnamon-rufous, middle and hind tarsi darker, last joint of all tarsi ferruginous.

One specimen. Little Aden, Arabia. 8. ii. 1895. (Lieut.-Colonel Yerbury.) Type in British Museum (Natural History).

The British Museum is indebted to the generosity of Colonel Yerbury, whose remarkable energy as a collector of Diptera is well known, for the enrichment of its collection with the type of the new genus and species described above. Although the donor has unfortunately been unable to find in his diaries any reference to the habits of the insect, there can be no doubt, from its evident affinities and from the shape of its proboscis, that *Stygeromyia maculosa* is a blood-sucker; and it is to be hoped that we may ere long receive, in addition to a series of specimens of both sexes, full details as to the bionomics of this striking addition to the Stomoxydinæ.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

*Fishes of Japan, an Account principally on Economic Species.* By KEINOSUKE OTAKI, TSUNENOBU FUJITA, and TADASHI HIGURASHI. Text roy. 8vo; plates imper. 4to. Tokyo, 1903-7. (Publishers: Shokwabo, Tokyo.)

THIS work has been in progress for several years. Excellent in its plan, object, and execution, it is characteristic of the thoroughness with which the Japanese Naturalists have mastered western